Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1   1.   (Currently Amended) A method for provisioning services within a ~~computer~~ message
2   interchange network, the method comprising:
3   providing a message interchange network having a plurality of services associated
4   therewith, each of which are accessible by others of the plurality of services, each
5   service representing one or more computer applications on one or more computing
6   devices accessible to other computing devices through the message interchange
7   network, the message interchange network being a hosted network overlaying a public
8   network and operable to mediate messages sent between the services so that each
9   service receives messages in a format specified by the respective service, without the
10   senders of the messages being aware of the specified format;
11   receiving an offer pertaining to a service, the offer being created by a provider of the
12   service to which the offer pertains, and being transmitted from a first device to a ~~second~~
13   ~~device~~ service manager within the ~~computer~~ message interchange network, the service
14   manager being operable to track information pertaining to the offer and to invitees that
15   are invited to access the service of the offer, and to set up permissions between an
16   invitee and the service if the invitee accepts the offer;
17   receiving identifying information regarding one or more invitees to be invited to access
18   the service of the offer, the one or more invitees being transmitted from the first device to the
19   ~~second device~~ service manager; and
20   in response to receipt of the offer and the identifying information regarding the one or
21   more invitees, providing by the service manager an invitation to each of the one or more
22   invitees to access the service of the offer through the message interchange network and
23   based on the received identifying information.

1   2.   (Original) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the invitation is provided in the form
2   of an email.

3. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the invitation is provided in the form of a message or an FTP (file transfer protocol) drop.

4. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising:

providing a unique URL address (Uniform Resource Locator) for each one or more invitees; and

providing the corresponding URL address in the each invitation to each invitee, wherein the URL address points to one or more web pages which allows the each invitee to register identifying information and accept terms for the offer.

5. (Original) A method as recited in claim 4,

wherein the unique URL address is provided to the provider by a provisioning service implemented on the second device, and

wherein the provider sends the each invitation to each of the one or more invitees.

6. (Original) A method as recited in claim 4, wherein the each invitation is provided by a provisioning service implemented on the second device.

7. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising storing the offer and its associated one or more invitees.

8. (Original) A method as recited in claim 7,

wherein the offer and its associated one or more invitees are only stored when the provider is authorized to create the offer, and

wherein the invitation is only provided to the one or more each invitees when the provider is authorized to create the offer.

9. (Original) A method as recited in claim 8, further comprising sending an error message to the provider when the provider is not authorized to create the offer.

10. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising presenting a registration input form to a first invitee of the one or more invitees for the offer when the first invitee accesses the invitation.

11. (Original) A method as recited in claim 10, wherein the identifying information received for the first invitee is pre-filled into the presented registration form.

1   12. (Original) A method as recited in claim 10, wherein the invitation to the each one or more

2   invitees further allows the each one or more invitees to accept the invitation.

1   13. (Original) A method as recited in claim 12, further comprising presenting an acceptance

2   link to the first invitee when the invitee submits the registration form with identifying

3   information.

1   14. (Original) A method as recited in claim 12, further comprising:

2   setting up permissions between the first invitee and the service when the first invitee

3   registers and accepts the offer.

1   15. (Original) A method as recited in claim 14, wherein permissions are not set up when the

2   first invitee is not authorized to accept the offer.

1   16. (Original) A method as recited in claim 12, further comprising:

2   when the first invitee accepts the first offer, storing an indicator that the first invitee

3   accepted the offer and the date of such acceptance;

4   when the first invitee does not accept the offer, storing an indicator that the first invitee

5   did not accept the offer;

6   when the first invitee registers, storing an indicator regarding the registration and the date

7   of such registration; and

8   when the first invitee does not register, storing an indicator that the first invitee did not

9   register.

1   17. (Original) A method as recited in claim 16, further comprising providing the indicator

2   regarding the acceptance, the date of acceptance by the first invitee, and the indicator

3   regarding registration to the provider when the provider queries regarding the first invitee or

4   the offer.

1   18. (Original) A method as recited in claim 9, wherein the registration form is presented to

2   the first invitee by presenting an invitation page having a registration link, the method further

3   comprising:

4   presenting an option link in the invitation page, wherein the option can be accessed by

5   invitees which have already registered;

6   presenting an acceptance link to the first invitee when the invitee submits the registration

7   form with identifying information; and

8   presenting the acceptance link to the first invitee when the invitee selects the option link

9   and the first invitee is already registered.

1   19. (Currently Amended) A computer system operable to provisioning services within a

2   ~~computer~~-message interchange network, the computer system comprising:

3   a message interchange network having a plurality of services associated therewith,

4   each of which are accessible by others of the plurality of services, each service

5   representing one or more computer applications on one or more computing devices

6   accessible to other computing devices through the message interchange network, the

7   message interchange network being a hosted network overlaying a public network and

8   operable to mediate messages sent between the services so that each service receives

9   messages in a format specified by the respective service, without the senders of the

10   messages being aware of the specified format:

11   one or more processors associated with the message interchange network;

12   one or more memory associated with the message interchange network, wherein at

13   least one of the processors and memory are adapted for:

14   receiving an offer pertaining to a service, the offer being created by a provider of the

15   service to which the offer pertains, and being transmitted from a first device to a ~~second~~

16   ~~device~~ service manager within the ~~computer~~-message interchange network, the service

17   manager being operable to track information pertaining to the offer and to invitees that

18   are invited to access the service of the offer, and to set up permissions between an

19   invitee and the service if the invitee accepts the offer;

20   receiving identifying information regarding one or more invitees to be invited to access

21   the service of the offer, the one or more invitees being transmitted from the first device to the

22   ~~second device~~ service manager; and

23   in response to receipt of the offer and the identifying information regarding the one or

24   more invitees, providing by the service manager an invitation to each of the one or more

25   invitees to access the service of the offer through the message interchange network and

26   based on the received identifying information.

1   20. (Original) A computer system as recited in claim 19, wherein the invitation is provided in

2   the form of an email.

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21. (Previously Presented) A computer system as recited in claim 19, wherein the invitation is provided in the form of a message or an FTP (file transfer protocol) drop.

22. (Original) A computer system as recited in claim 20, wherein the at least one of the processors and memory are further adapted for:

providing a unique URL address (Uniform Resource Locator) for each one or more invitees; and

providing the corresponding URL address in the each email to each invitee, wherein the URL address points to one or more web pages which allows the each invitee to register identifying information and accept terms for the offer.

23. (Original) A computer system as recited in claim 22,

wherein the unique URL address is provided to the provider by a provisioning service implemented on the second device, and

wherein the provider sends the each email to each of the one or more invitees.

24. (Original) A computer system as recited in claim 19, wherein the at least one of the processors and memory are further adapted for storing the offer and its associated one or more invitees.

25. (Original) A computer system as recited in claim 19, wherein the at least one of the processors and memory are further adapted for presenting a registration input form to a first invitee of the one or more invitees for the offer when the first invitee accesses the invitation.

26. (Original) A computer system as recited in claim 25, wherein the identifying information received for the first invitee is pre-filled into the presented registration form.

27. (Original) A computer system as recited in claim 25, wherein the invitation to the each one or more invitees further allows the each one or more invitees to accept the invitation.

28. (Original) A computer system as recited in claim 27, wherein the at least one of the processors and memory are further adapted for presenting an acceptance link to the first invitee when the invitee submits the registration form with identifying information.

29. (Original) A computer system as recited in claim 27, wherein the at least one of the processors and memory are further adapted for:

3   setting up permissions between the first invitee and the service when the first invitee

4   registers and accepts the offer.

1   30. (Original) A computer system as recited in claim 29, wherein permissions are not set up

2   when the first invitee is not authorized to accept the offer.

1   31. (Original) A computer system as recited in claim 28, wherein the at least one of the

2   processors and memory are further adapted for:

3   when the first invitee accepts the first offer, storing an indicator that the first invitee

4   accepted the offer and the date of such acceptance;

5   when the first invitee does not accept the offer, storing an indicator that the first invitee

6   did not accept the offer;

7   when the first invitee registers, storing an indicator regarding the registration and the date

8   of such registration; and

9   when the first invitee does not register, storing an indicator that the first invitee did not

10   register.

1   32. (Original) A computer system as recited in claim 31, wherein the at least one of the

2   processors and memory are further adapted for providing the indicator regarding the

3   acceptance, the date of acceptance by the first invitee, and the indicator regarding registration

4   to the provider when the provider queries regarding the first invitee or the offer.

1   33. (Original) A computer system as recited in claim 25, wherein the registration form is

2   presented to the first invitee by presenting an invitation page having a registration link,

3   wherein the at least one of the processors and memory are further adapted for:

4   presenting an option link in the invitation page, wherein the option can be accessed by

5   invitees which have already registered;

6   presenting an acceptance link to the first invitee when the invitee submits the registration

7   form with identifying information; and

8   presenting the acceptance link to the first invitee when the invitee selects the option link

9   and the first invitee is already registered.

1   34. (Currently Amended) A computer program product, stored on a machine-readable

2   medium, for provisioning services within a ~~computer~~ message interchange network, the

3   computer program product comprising instructions operable to cause a computer to:

4   ~~at least one computer readable medium;~~

5   ~~computer program instructions stored within the at least one computer readable~~
6   ~~product configured for:~~
7   in a message interchange network having a plurality of services associated
8   therewith, each of which are accessible by others of the plurality of services, each
9   service representing one or more computer applications on one or more computing
10   devices accessible to other computing devices through the message interchange
11   network, the message interchange network being a hosted network overlaying a public
12   network and operable to mediate messages sent between the services so that each
13   service receives messages in a format specified by the respective service, without the
14   senders of the messages being aware of the specified format,
15   ~~receiving~~ receive an offer pertaining to a service, the offer being created by a provider of
16   the service to which the offer pertains, and being transmitted from a first device to a
17   ~~second device~~ service manager within the ~~computer~~ message interchange network, the
18   service manager being operable to track information pertaining to the offer and to
19   invitees that are invited to access the service of the offer, and to set up permissions
20   between an invitee and the service if the invitee accepts the offer;
21   ~~receiving~~ receive identifying information regarding one or more invitees to be invited to
22   access the service of the offer, the one or more invitees being transmitted from the first
23   device to the ~~second device~~ service manager; and
24   in response to receipt of the offer and the identifying information regarding the one or
25   more invitees, ~~providing~~ provide by the service manager an invitation to each of the one or
26   more invitees to access the service of the offer through the message interchange network
27   and based on the received identifying information.

1   35. (Original) A computer program product as recited in claim 34, wherein the invitation is
2   provided in the form of an email.

1   36. (Original) A method as recited in claim 34, wherein the invitation is provided in the form
2   of a message or an FTP (file transfer protocol) drop.

1   37. (Currently Amended) A computer program product as recited in claim 35, the ~~at least~~
2   ~~one~~ computer ~~readable~~ program product ~~being~~ further ~~configured for~~ comprising
3   instructions to:
4   ~~providing~~ provide a unique URL address (Uniform Resource Locator) for each one or
5   more invitees; and

6   ~~providing~~ provide the corresponding URL address in the each email to each invitee,
7   wherein the URL address points to one or more web pages which allows the each invitee to
8   register identifying information and accept terms for the offer.

1   38. (Original) A computer program product as recited in claim 37,
2   wherein the unique URL address is provided to the provider by a provisioning service
3   implemented on the second device, and
4   wherein the provider sends the each email to each of the one or more invitees.

1   39. (Original) A computer program product as recited in claim 37, wherein the each email is
2   provided by a provisioning service implemented on the second device.

1   40. (Currently Amended) A computer program product as recited in claim 34, the ~~at least~~
2   ~~one~~ computer ~~readable~~ program product ~~being~~ further ~~configured for~~ comprising
3   instructions to:
4   ~~storing~~ store the offer and its associated one or more invitees.

1   41. (Original) A computer program product as recited in claim 40,
2   wherein the offer and its associated one or more invitees are only stored when the
3   provider is authorized to create the offer, and
4   wherein the invitation is only provided to the one or more each invitees when the
5   provider is authorized to create the offer.

1   42. (Currently Amended) A computer program product as recited in claim 41, the ~~at least~~
2   ~~one~~ computer ~~readable~~ program product ~~being further configured for~~ comprising
3   instructions to:
4   ~~sending~~ send an error message to the provider when the provider is not authorized to
5   create the offer.

1   43. (Currently Amended) A computer program product as recited in claim 34, the ~~at least~~
2   ~~one~~ computer ~~readable~~ program product ~~being~~ further ~~configured for~~ comprising
3   instructions to:
4   ~~presenting~~ present a registration input form to a first invitee of the one or more invitees
5   for the offer when the first invitee accesses the invitation.

1   44. (Original) A computer program product as recited in claim 43, wherein the identifying

2   information received for the first invitee is pre-filled into the presented registration form.

1   45. (Original) A computer program product as recited in claim 43, wherein the invitation to

2   the each one or more invitees further allows the each one or more invitees to accept the

3   invitation.

1   46. (Currently Amended) A computer program product as recited in claim 34, the ~~at least~~

2   ~~one~~ computer ~~readable~~ program product ~~being~~ further ~~configured for~~ comprising

3   instructions to:

4   ~~presenting~~ present an acceptance link to the first invitee when the invitee submits the

5   registration form with identifying information.

1   47. (Currently Amended) A computer program product as recited in claim 34, the ~~at least~~

2   ~~one~~ computer ~~readable~~ program product ~~being~~ further ~~configured for~~ comprising

3   instructions to:

4   ~~setting~~ set up permissions between the first invitee and the service when the first invitee

5   registers and accepts the offer.

1   48. (Original) A computer program product as recited in claim 47, wherein permissions are

2   not set up when the first invitee is not authorized to accept the offer.

1   49. (Currently Amended) A computer program product as recited in claim 46, the ~~at least~~

2   ~~one~~ computer ~~readable~~ program product ~~being~~ further ~~configured for~~ comprising

3   instructions to:

4   when the first invitee accepts the first offer, ~~storing~~ store an indicator that the first

5   invitee accepted the offer and the date of such acceptance;

6   when the first invitee does not accept the offer, ~~storing~~ store an indicator that the first

7   invitee did not accept the offer;

8   when the first invitee registers, ~~storing~~ store an indicator regarding the registration and

9   the date of such registration; and

10   when the first invitee does not register, ~~storing~~ store an indicator that the first invitee did

11   not register.

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1 50. (Currently Amended) A computer program product as recited in claim 49, the at least
2 one computer readable program product being further configured forcomprising
3 instructions to:
4   providing provide the indicator regarding the acceptance, the date of acceptance by the
5 first invitee, and the indicator regarding registration to the provider when the provider queries
6 regarding the first invitee or the offer.

1 51. (Currently Amended) A computer program product as recited in claim 43, wherein the
2 registration form is presented to the first invitee by presenting an invitation page having a
3 registration link, the at-least-one computer readable program product being further
4 configured for comprising instructions to:
5   presenting present an option link in the invitation page, wherein the option can be
6 accessed by invitees which have already registered;
7   presenting present an acceptance link to the first invitee when the invitee submits the
8 registration form with identifying information; and
9   presenting present the acceptance link to the first invitee when the invitee selects the
10 option link and the first invitee is already registered.